STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – OFFICE OF THE DELTA WATERMASTER
AUGUST 7, 2018

ITEM 2

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A REVISED DELEGATION
OF AUTHORITY TO THE DELTA WATERMASTER

DISCUSSION

The Delta Watermaster is requesting a revision of the current delegation of authority to make
clear that the Delta Watermaster has the authority — subject to due process and Board review
when requested — to take enforcement action with regard to applications, permits and licenses
— up to and including revocation. In the Delta, administration of applications, permits and
licenses should go through the Office of the Delta Watermaster, but there is no explicit language
in the existing delegation conveying that authority. Without explicit language in the delegation,
the Delta Watermaster may have no revocation authority to exercise in appropriate
circumstances nor any such authority to sub-delegate to the Division of Water Rights (as might
be appropriate in the future).

POLICY ISSUE

Should the Office of the Delta Watermaster have explicitly delegated authority to administer
applications, permits and licenses?

FISCAL IMPACT

Potential expansion of enforcement proceedings.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution to include delegation of authority to administer applications, permits and
licenses within the Delta. The Deputy Director of the Division of Water Rights joins in the
recommendation.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 6 of the
Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to enhance consistency across the Water Boards, on an
ongoing basis, to ensure our processes are effective, efficient, and predictable, and to promote
fair and equitable application of laws, regulations, policies, and procedures. In particular,
approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective 6.1 to target consistency improvements in
process and policy for Water Board enforcement activities to promote compliance.